

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/539756

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 JUN 2005

Applicant : Kenji SASAKI et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP2003/016362)

I.A. Filed : December 19, 2003

For : METHOD FOR PROTECTING THIOL GROUP OF PROTEIN

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the specification and claims as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.